

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lars BLANK, *et al.*
Title: METHOD OF IMPROVING
BIOMASS YIELD OF LACTIC
ACID BACTERIAL CULTURES
Appl. No.: 10/623,578
Filing Date: 7/22/2003
Examiner: Leon B. LANKFORD, JR.
Art Unit: 1651

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the final Office Action dated July 5, 2006, concerning the captioned application. This response is timely, by virtue of the accompanying petition and payment of the prescribed fees.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this document.